

TAGASTE NEWSLETTER  
PROVINCE OF ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE  
OAR  
MARCH, 2022

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March greetings to all our brothers in the Province of St. Nicholas, our Secular Augustinian Recollects, Guild members, and the Hispanic Committee, as well as our parishioners at Sacred Heart Church!

**Ash Wednesday Services.** All of the services at Sacred Heart Church in Suffern were filled to capacity for the distribution of ashes to initiate the season of Lent, 2022. Masses were celebrated at 9:00 a.m. in English and 7:15 p.m. in Spanish, and prayer services were held at 12:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses were also held at Friedwald Center in New City and at St. Joseph Adult Care Home in Sloatsburg. The friars also reached out to a number of home-bound parishioners to extend to them the traditional blessing for the beginning of the Lenten season.



***“Repent and believe in the Gospel!” Frs. Eric Crelencia and Michael Rafferty distribute ashes to the parishioners at Sacred Heart Church on March 2, 2022.***

**Lenten activities.** The friars offered Lenten evenings of reflection for the parishioners in English on March 8 and in Spanish on March 10. The services included Scripture readings, reflections,

and hymns led by the Sacred Heart and the Coro Emanuel Choirs . . . Stations of the Cross were offered in Spanish (Thursdays) and English (Fridays) . . . Over the course of the month all of the Religious Ed students of the parish were given an opportunity for Confession.



***Despedida.*** The community of the Eastern Region of the USA Vicariate gathered on March 14 in Union City to wish Fr. Anthony Palos a safe trip to his new assignment in California (l to r): Frs. John Gruben, Anthony Palos, Eric Crelencia, José María Martínez, Michael Rafferty, Charles Huse, Antonio Ciordia, Paco Legarra, and Miguel Echeverría.



***St. Joseph Blessing:*** Frs. John Gruben and Eric Crelencia bless bread brought by parishioners on the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19.



**St. Patrick and St. Joseph honored.** Our Lady's Guild of Sacred Heart, joined by members of the Pius X Guild of Tagaste Monastery, hosted a gathering to honor both St. Patrick (March 17) and St. Joseph (March 19) in the gym at Sacred Heart Church on March 24. The group was properly diverse with both the Irish and the Italians represented with Irish soda bread and St. Joseph pastries. The Hispanic community was also invited to join in the festivities following the Spanish Stations of the Cross.



***Our Lady's Guild Meeting:** Fr. Michael with Kathy Witt, coordinator of Our Lady's Guild of Sacred Heart, prepares to bless table after group meeting on March 24.*



***Members of Our Lady's Guild of Sacred Heart and Pius X Guild of Tagaste Monastery joined by Fr. John at the get-together to honor St. Patrick and St. Joseph on March 24.***



***West Orange reunion.** The friars visited SAR members from the St. Cloud chapter in West Orange, New Jersey on March 28 (l to r): Elaine Jacobs, Mel Ianiro, Frs. Charles Huse and Fidel Hernández, Ella Gruszczynski (SAR president), and Fr. John Gruben.*



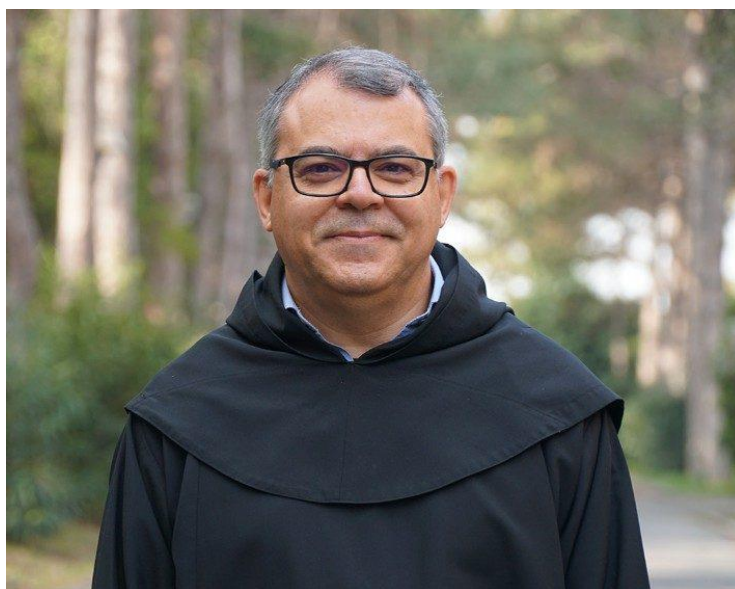
***It's been a while!** Friars and SAR members had not seen each other since before the pandemic began in March 2020, so there was a good deal of catching up to do. Elaine Jacobs hosted the get together at her home in West Orange.*





***Honoring Our Lady.** The Immaculate Heart of Mary prayer group of Sacred Heart met on March 30 to pray before the pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY-ELECTED PRIOR GENERAL  
OF THE ORDER OF AUGUSTINIAN RECOLLECTS!**



***Fr Miguel Ángel Hernández Domínguez, OAR***

**New Prior General of the Order.** The participants of the 56th General Chapter held in Rome elected Fr. Miguel Ángel Hernández Domínguez, OAR, as Prior General of the Order of Augustinian Recollects on Tuesday, March 22. A member of St. Thomas of Villanova Province, Fr. Miguel Ángel will be in the service of the Order for the period 2022-2028. He succeeds **Fr. Miguel Miró Miró, OAR**, who has held the office of Prior General for the last twelve years. Our best wishes and gratitude to Fr. Miró for his service to the Order and his friendship to the USA Vicariate and all its members for so many years!



***All in the family:** Fr. Michael blesses Joseph Ameres and Barbara Bernstein on their wedding day at Sacred Heart on March 5. Barbara has been assistant secretary at the parish for many years.*



***Joining in Synodality** (l to r): Jean Bolton, Fr. Eric, and Madeline McBain represented Sacred Heart Church for gathering at St. Augustine Church in New City, NY, on March 19.*

**Meeting of Rockland County parishes.** Some 80 priests, deacons, religious, and laity from across the county met at St. Augustine Church in New City, NY, on March 19, to pray, listen, and contribute observations and concerns to be brought to an upcoming Bishops' Synod in Rome to be convened by Pope Francis to discuss how to move forward as a "synodal" Church. Fr. Eric Crelencia together with parishioners Jean Bolton and Madeline McBain joined the group as representatives from Sacred Heart Church.



*Parishioners move forward to receive ashes at one of the Ash Wednesday services at Sacred Heart on March 2, 2022.*

**For all parish news, upcoming events, and Mass schedules,**  
see [www.sacredheartparish.org](http://www.sacredheartparish.org)

**For the latest news on Venerable Bishop Alphonse Gallegos, OAR,**  
see [www.bishopgallegos.org](http://www.bishopgallegos.org)

*Fr. John Gruben, OAR, prior*  
*Theresa Giampaglia, SAR president*  
*Connie Montanye, Guild president*

**LENT**  
Pray + Fast + Give